



# FEMA

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh) and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

## FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Wednesday, February 28, 2018  
Issued: 0800 CT

### Day One Weather Hazards:

- *Severe storms possible for portions of NE TX, S AR, and N LA.*
- *Critical fire weather conditions for E NM, W TX/OK, and the W TX/OK Panhandles.*
- *Heavy rain and flooding possible across NE TX, N LA, and AR.*
- *Widespread minor to moderate river flooding across AR, E TX and LA.*

**National Weather Service**

**Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX**



**Prepared by: Jennifer McNatt  
817-978-1100 x 147**

# Key Points



## River Flood Status

- Isolated major flooding is occurring and will continue this week in southern and northeast AR. Some homes could be impacted.
- Minor to moderate river flooding is occurring and will continue this week across E TX, N LA, AR. Impacts are mostly to secondary roads and agriculture.

## Today

- Heavy rain/flood potential continues for NE TX, AR and N LA
- Severe storms possible over NE TX, S AR and N LA
  - Hail and damaging winds are the main threats
- Critical fire weather conditions in E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, and portions of W TX/OK

## Thursday - Sunday

- No significant weather threats expected
- Critical fire weather conditions Fri-Sat for NE NM, W TX/OK Panhandles

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

## Feb 28, 2018 through Mar 4, 2018

DAY / THREAT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Severe Storms	NE TX, S AR, N LA				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	NE TX, N LA, AR				
Fire Weather	E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W TX/OK		NE NM, W TX/OK Panhandles	NE NM, W TX/OK Panhandles	
Winter					
River Flooding	S & NE AR				
	E TX, AR, LA				

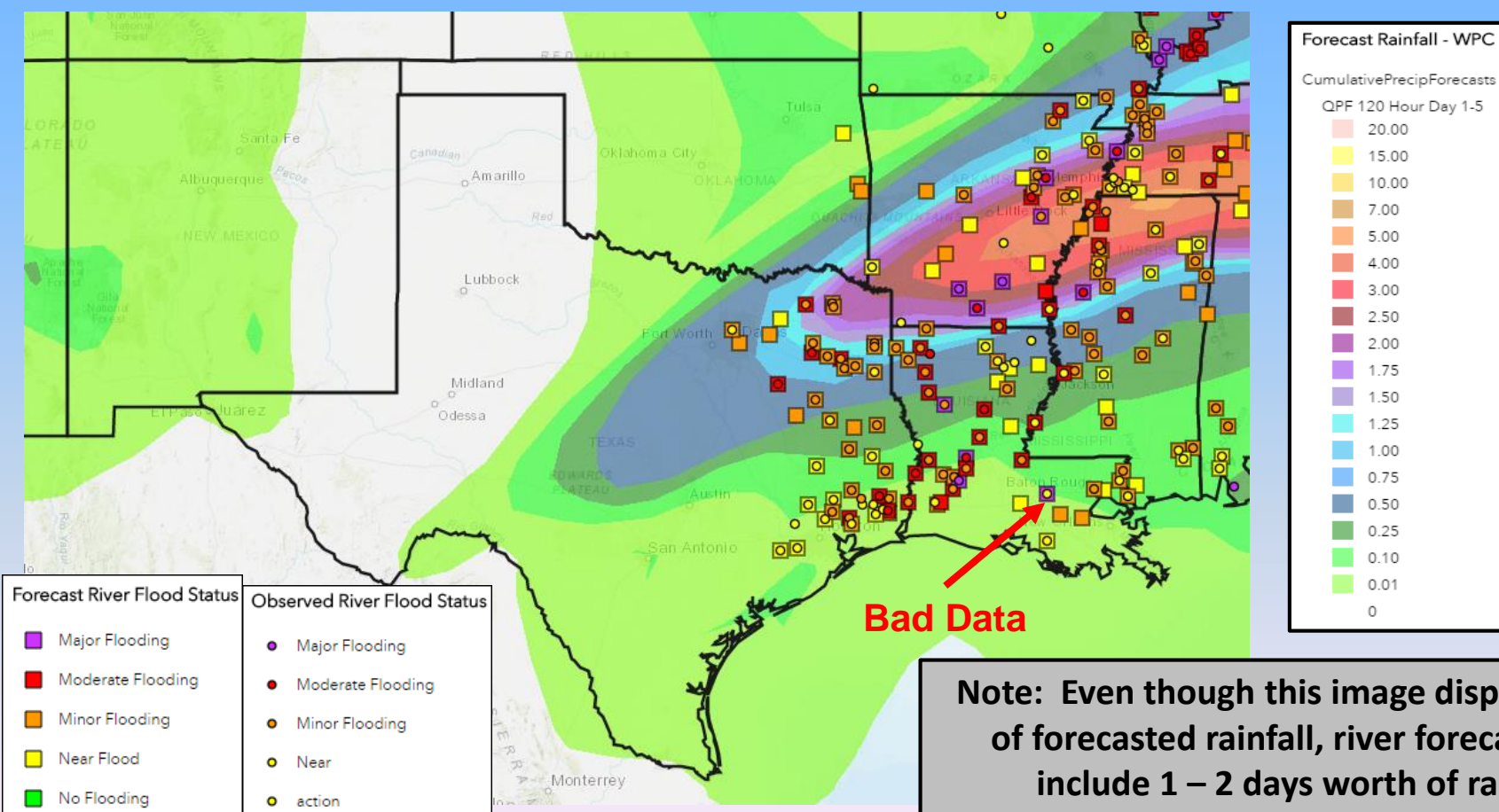
	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*



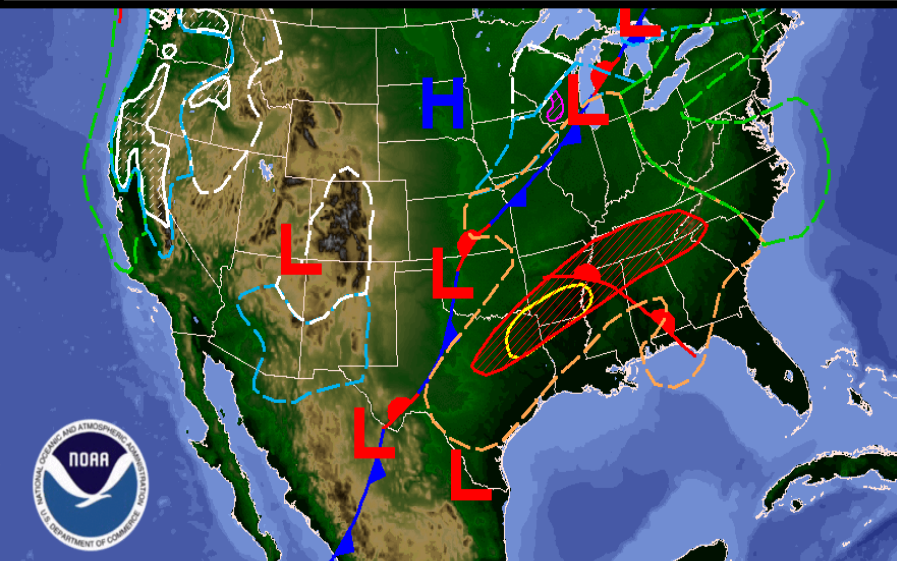
# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

- Isolated major river flooding is occurring and expected to continue this week in S & NE AR. Some homes could be impacted.
- Widespread minor to moderate river flooding is occurring & will continue this week in E TX, AR & LA. Impacts are mostly to secondary roads and agriculture.
- Additional rainfall over these same areas today is likely to prolong and may expand the current flooding.



See <http://water.weather.gov/ahps> for the latest on river flooding

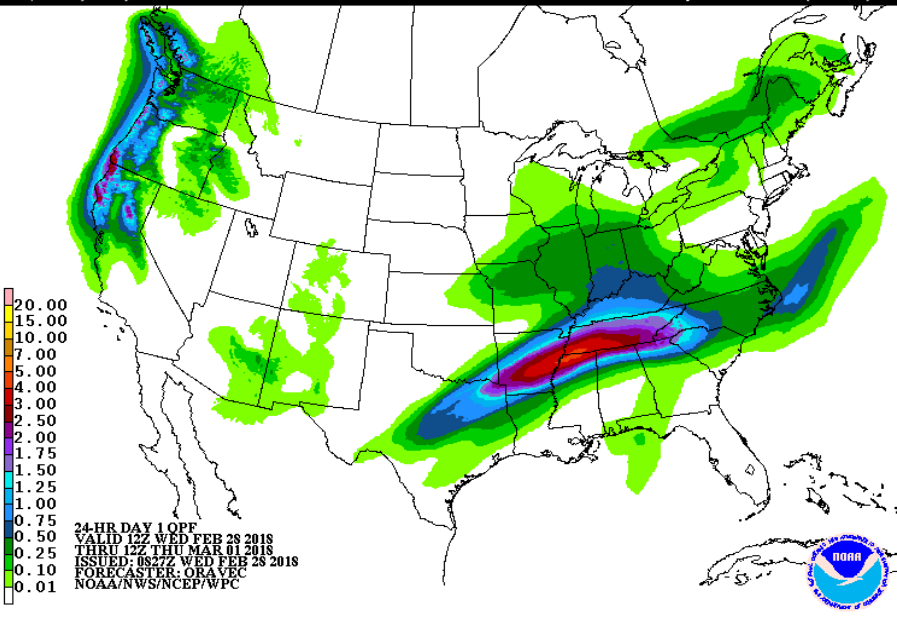
# Today's Weather



## Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Feb 28, 2018, issued 4:49 AM EST  
 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
 Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
 Rain and T'Storms  
 Rain and Snow  
 Snow  
 Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
 Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
 Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
 Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



Severe storms possible for portions of NE TX, S AR, and N LA.

Critical fire weather conditions for E NM, W TX/OK, and the W TX/OK Panhandles.

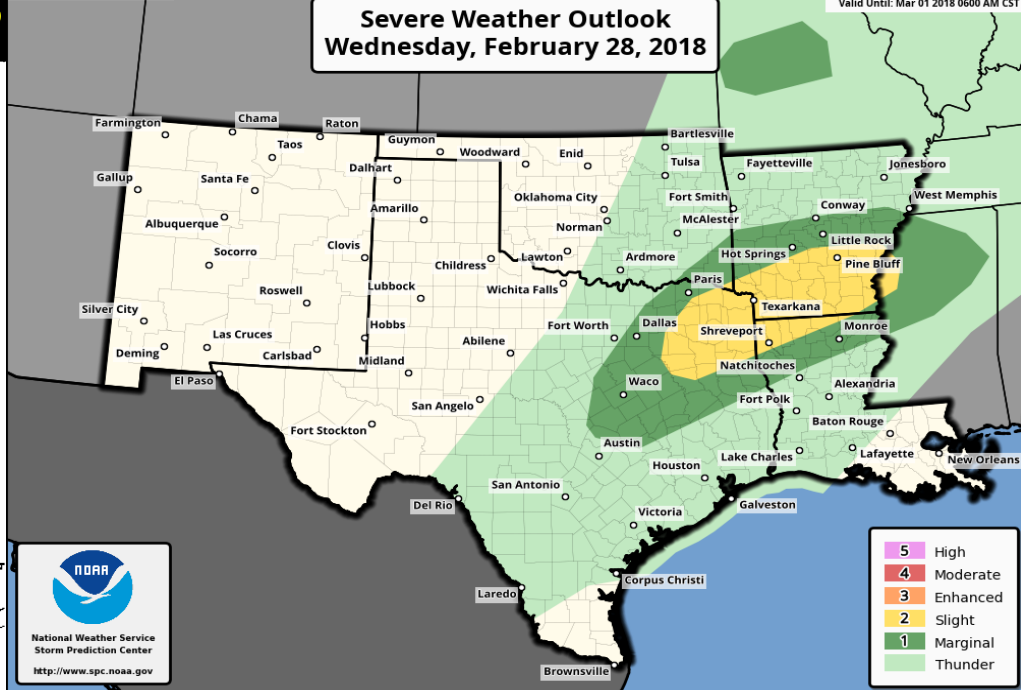
Heavy rain and flooding possible across NE TX, N LA, and AR.

Widespread minor to moderate river flooding across AR, E TX and LA.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

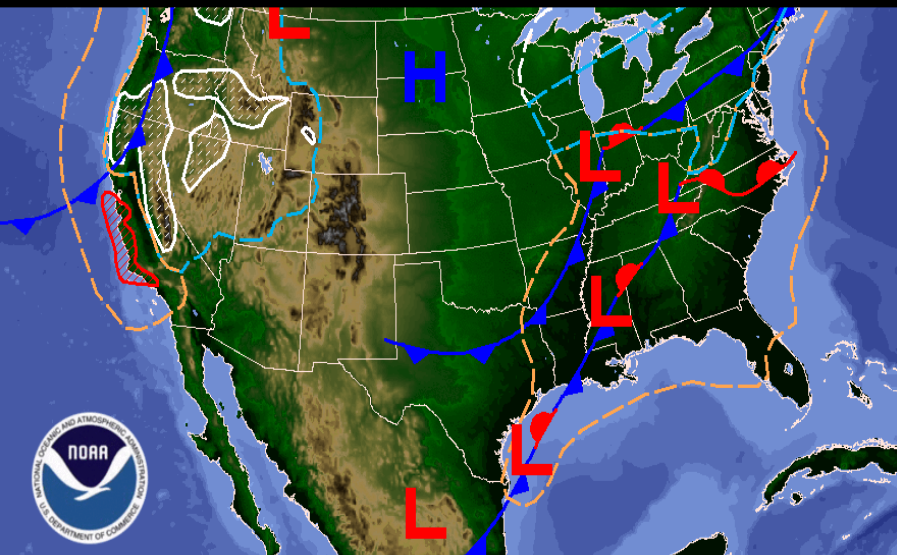
## Severe Weather Outlook Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Last Updated: Feb 27 2018 1142 PM CST  
 Valid Until: Mar 01 2018 0600 AM CST





# Tomorrow's Weather



## Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Mar 01, 2018, issued 5:01 AM EST Wed, Feb 28, 2018  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

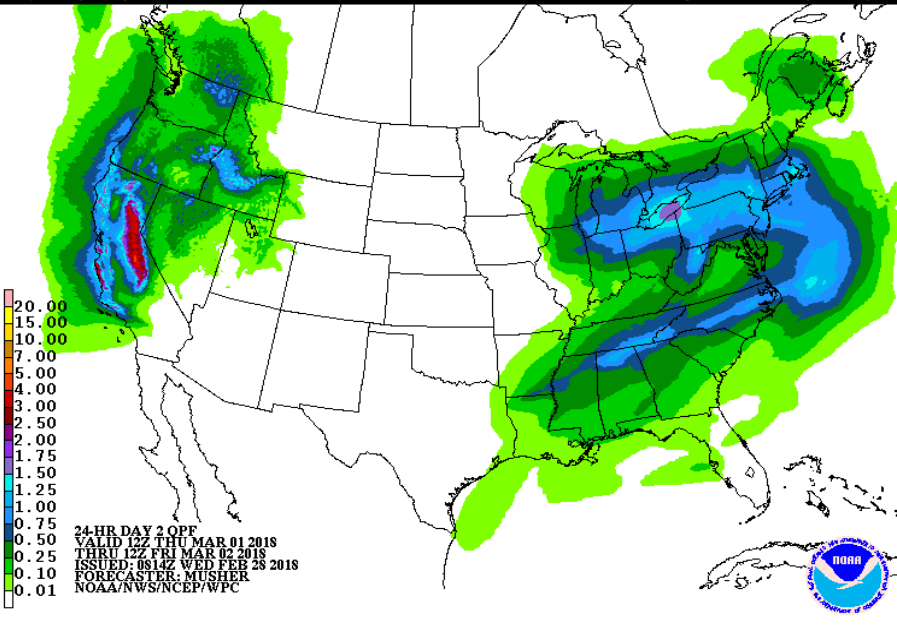
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 2 OPI  
VALID 12Z THU MAR 01 2018  
THRU 12Z FRI MAR 02 2018  
ISSUED: 0814Z WED FEB 28 2018  
FORECASTER: MUSHIER  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

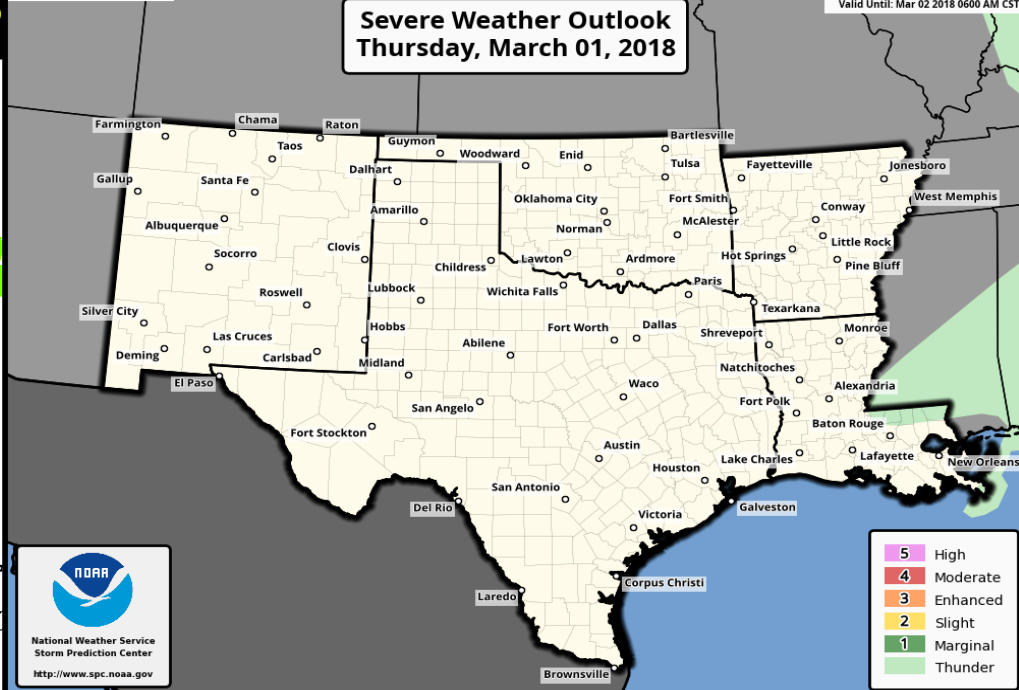
No Significant Weather Impacts Expected.

River flooding continues across E TX, AR, and LA.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

## Severe Weather Outlook Thursday, March 01, 2018

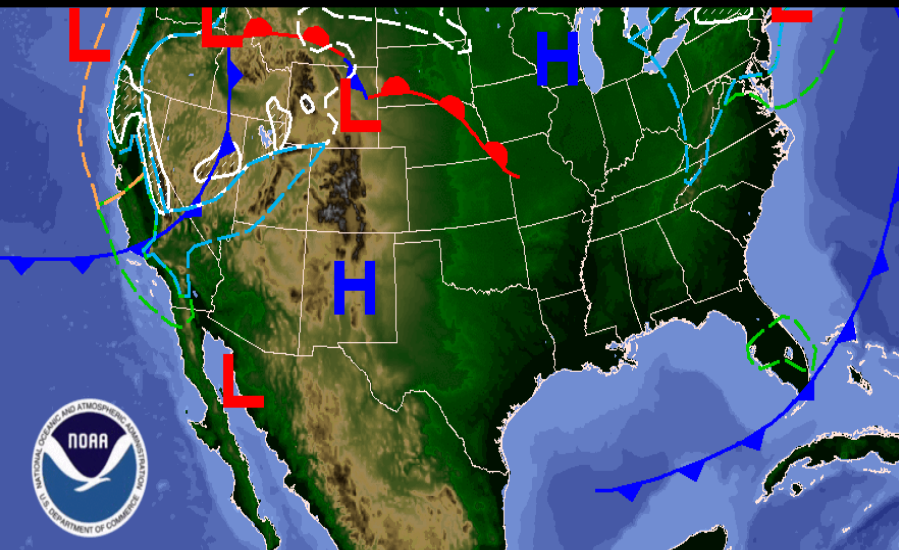
Last Updated: Feb 28 2018 1241 AM CST  
Valid Until: Mar 02 2018 0600 AM CST



NOAA  
National Weather Service  
Storm Prediction Center  
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

5 High  
4 Moderate  
3 Enhanced  
2 Slight  
1 Marginal  
Thunder

# Friday's Weather



**No Significant Weather Impacts Expected.**

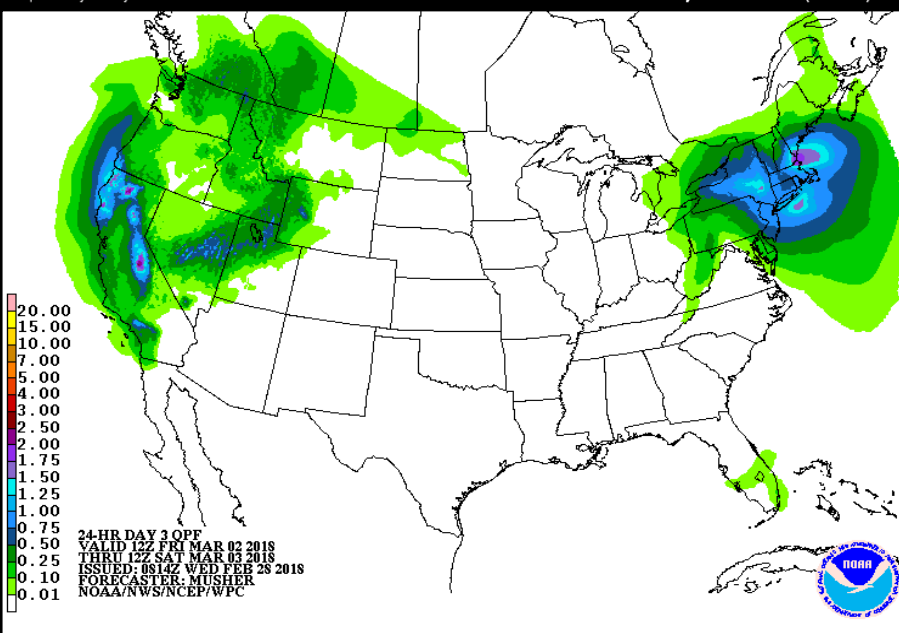
**Critical fire weather conditions expected across parts of NE NM and the W TX/OK Panhandles.**

**River flooding continues across E TX, AR, and LA.**

## Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Fri, Mar 02, 2018, Issued 5:09 AM EST Wed, Feb 28, 2018  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

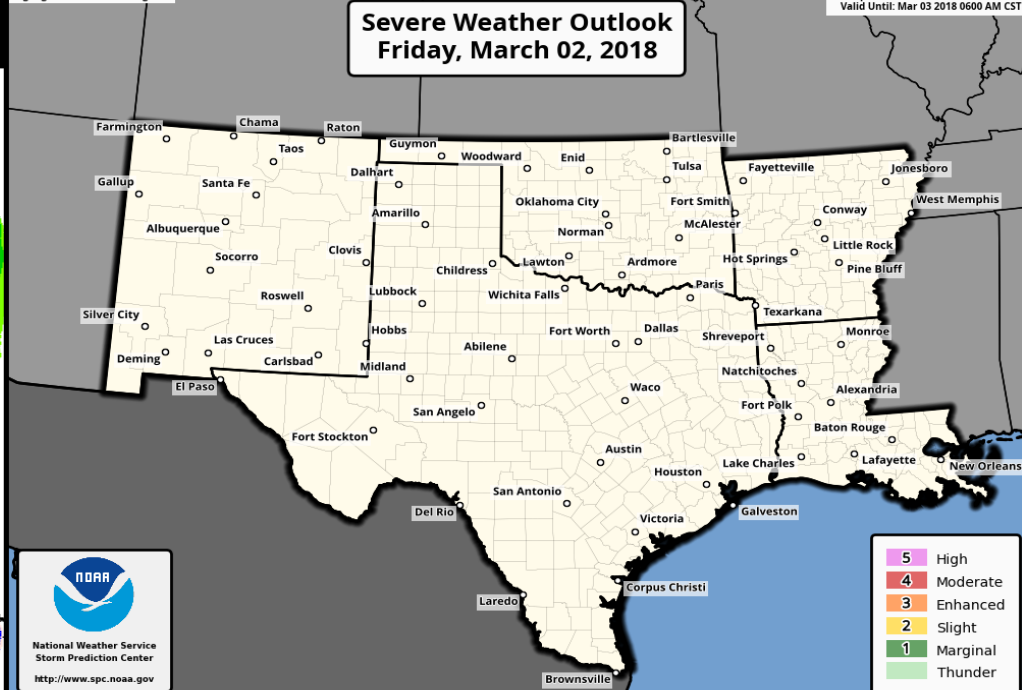
Rain  
Rain and T'Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow  
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

## Severe Weather Outlook Friday, March 02, 2018

Last Updated: Feb 28 2018 0226 AM CST  
Valid Until: Mar 03 2018 0600 AM CST











# Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

## *Sunday - Monday*



**Critical Fire  
Weather  
Conditions**

**No Significant Weather Impacts Expected.**

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

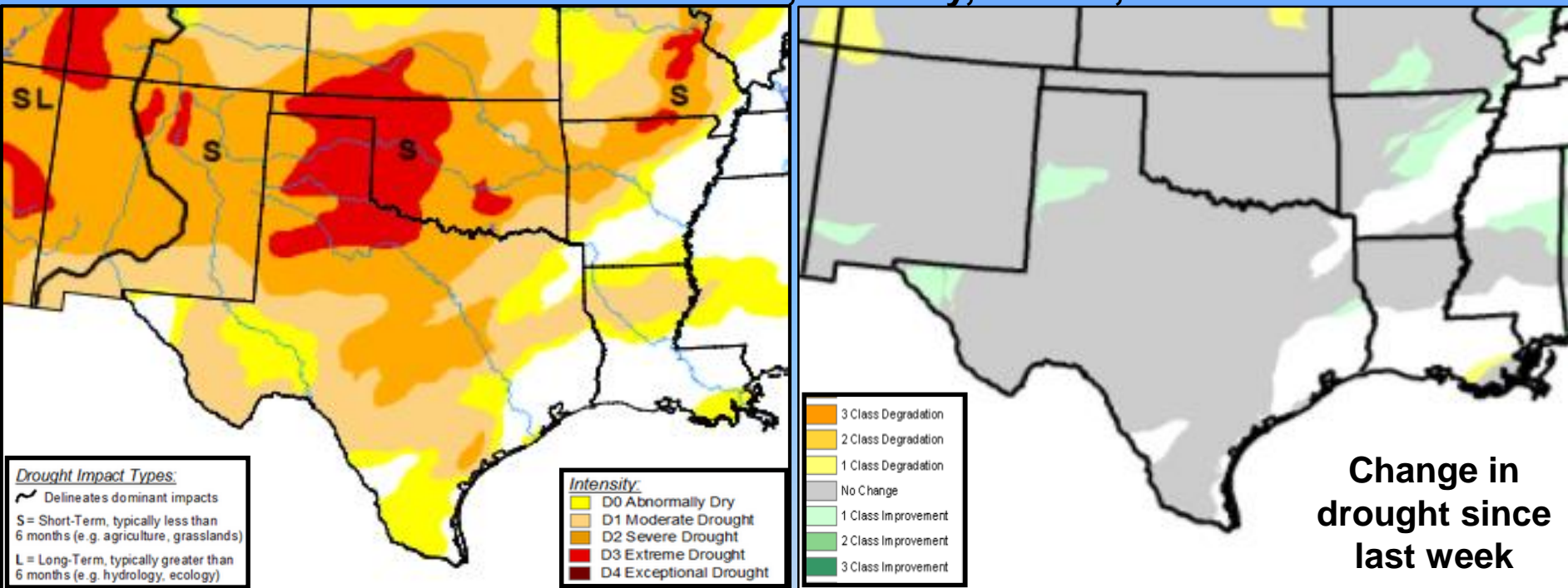
\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.





# Drought Monitor Released February 22, 2018

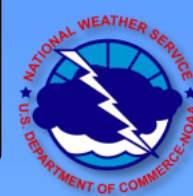
Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, Feb 20, 2018



## Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	1.91%	2.37%	0.00%	2.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	37.80%	37.80%	0.00%	0.18%
Texas	11.13%	13.07%	0.00%	0.53%
New Mexico	5.23%	3.96%	0.00%	0.00%

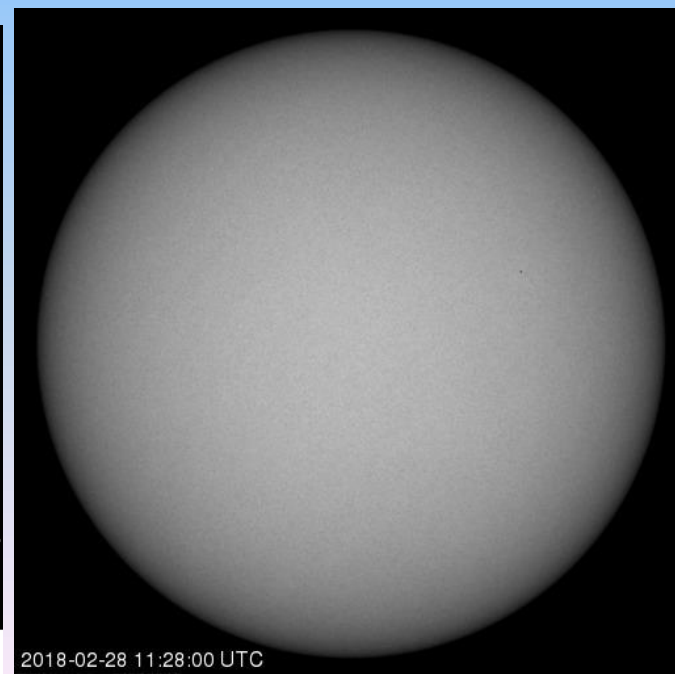
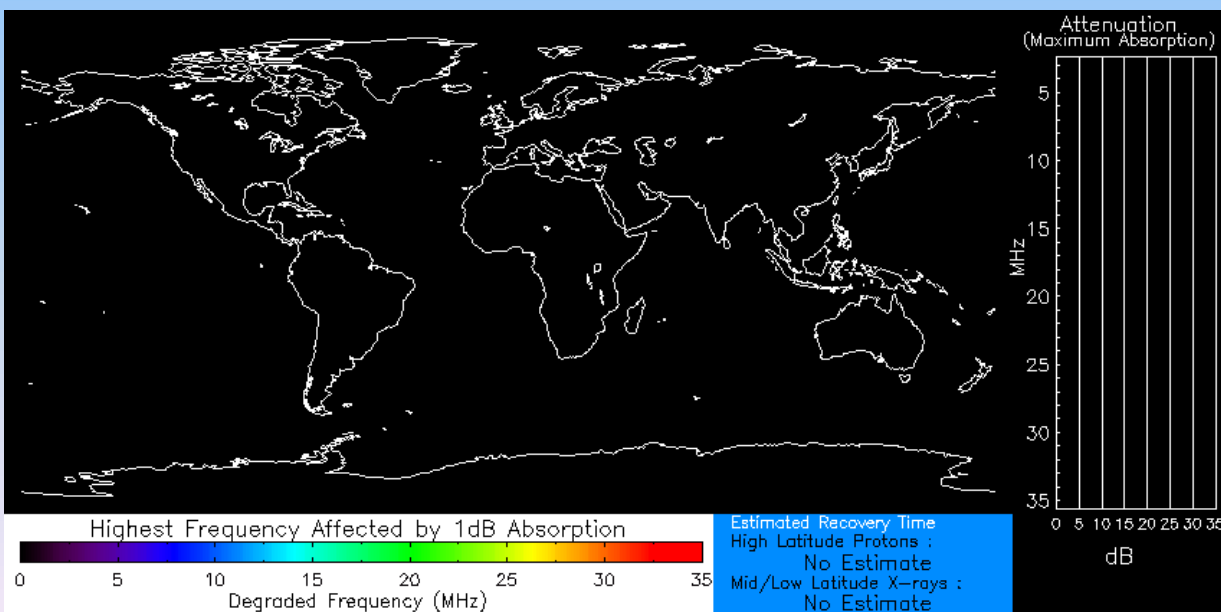
# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 4)	Quiet (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Information provided by:



**National Weather Service**  
**Southern Region Headquarters**  
**Regional Operations Center**  
**Fort Worth, TX**

Phone: (682) 703-3747 **\*New Direct Number**  
E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)  
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

**facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

**twitter**

@NWS\_Southern\_US [https://twitter.com/NWS\\_Southern\\_US](https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US)



# The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov).



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>